

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.

1914.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING :

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HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING,

February, 1915.

TO THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have again the honour of submitting for your consideration and acceptance my thirty-third Annual Report dealing with the Vital Statistics and other matters of importance coming within your jurisdiction as the Sanitary Authority for the year ended December 31st, 1914.

Appended to my Report are the various Tables of the Local Government Board, numbered respectively I., II., III. and IV.

In order that the text of my Report may be more readily understood, the following particulars may prove useful.

Table I. deals with the Vital Statistics for the whole District during the year 1914 and previous years.

Table II. gives the cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year.

Table III. gives the causes and ages at death during the year.

Table IV. gives the Infant Mortality with deaths from stated causes during the year.

By referring to Table I. it will be seen that 446 deaths have been registered during the year.

In estimating the mortality, however, it is necessary to take into consideration the deaths occurring in public institutions to persons belonging to the District, as well as non-residents, or those persons brought into the District on account of sickness or other causes and dying in public institutions there; so that after making the necessary corrections and alterations, we find the total number of deaths on which our mortality must be based becomes increased to 477.

If we estimate the population at the middle of the year, as required by the Local Government Board, at 28,367, this is equivalent to a death-rate of 16·8 per 1,000 per annum, and an infant mortality of 43·3 per cent.

The rate per 1,000 births registered is 157·6.

The following table gives the death-rate per 1,000 from the principal Zymotic diseases, including Phthisis Pulmonalis and the acute diseases of the lungs for the last three years:—

No.	Diseases.	1912.	1913.	1914.
1	Small-Pox	0	0	0
2	Scarlet Fever	·03	·2	·2
3	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.	·1	·19	·2
4	Typhoid Fever and Continued Fever	·1	·34	·3
5	Measles	·4	·34	0
6	Diarrhœa, Dysentery and Enteritis.	·4	1·1	2·1
7	Whooping Cough	·6	·19	·1
8	Phthisis (pulmonalis)	·5	·4	·5
9	Acute Diseases of the Lungs ...	2·5	1·9	3·06
10	Other Tubercular Diseases	·3	·5	·5
11	Zymotic Death-Rate	1·9	2·5	2·9

Births.—The births for the year number 483 males and 481 females, representing a birth-rate of 33·6 per 1,000 per annum, and a gain to the population of 487.

The following table gives the number of births—male and female—including birth-rate for the last four years:—

Year.	Total Births.	Males.	Females.	Rate per 1,000.	Total Increase.
1911	940	490	450	36·8	526
1912	922	477	445	35·1	557
1913	892	462	430	33·6	480
1914	964	483	481	33·6	487

Cases of Infectious Sickness.—The Notification Act was adopted by your Council in January, 1890.

The following table gives the cases notified during the present and the previous year:—

Diseases.	1913.	1914.
Scarlet Fever	132	366
Typhoid Fever	30	21
Erysipelas	27	29
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	16	23
Puerperal Fever	0	1
Small Pox	0	0
Chicken Pox (not now notifiable)	0	0
Phthisis Pulmonalis	45	42
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	44	23
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	5
Total	294	510

In all infectious cases the premises are visited and inspected as soon as possible after the receipt of the Notification Forms, and full instructions are given as to isolation and disinfection. Our houses are chiefly of the cottage property class, so that as a rule home isolation is a physical impossibility. We are a mining population, with a relatively high birth-rate, and the resources of the family are often severely taxed in order to provide sleeping accommodation for children with a proper regard for the separation of the sexes.

We have a commodious and well-equipped Isolation Hospital, with a Trained Resident Matron and Caretaker. It is supported out of the rates, and no charge is made for the treatment of cases. Under the circumstances it is to be regretted that there should be any difficulty in inducing persons suffering from infectious disease to accept Hospital treatment. The danger of keeping cases at home is so obvious, and has been repeatedly commented upon by me in my reports, that it is unnecessary to go over the same ground again. Sending odd cases of Scarlet Fever to the Hospital, for example, while other cases are allowed to remain at home, is an expensive business, and serves no good purpose. The early removal of Typhoid Fever and Diphtheria cases would undoubtedly have a good effect in limiting the spread of the diseases. By treating Typhoid cases at home the out-offices become contaminated notwithstanding the precaution we take of providing pails in all such cases. Happily there is a growing desire on the part of the community at large to avail themselves of Hospital treatment when occasion arises. I still maintain that it should be made part of the Medical Attendant's duty under the Act, not only to notify all such cases at the earliest possible moment, but to inform the family as well as to the nature of the illness, and to give such general instructions as to isolation and disinfection as shall safeguard the other members of the family pending the arrival of the Medical Officer. This is all the more necessary, as often a considerable interval elapses before the notification is received. Meanwhile much harm is done in the way of the infection spreading to others. It is no uncommon thing, Gentlemen, while on his round of inspection for your Medical Officer to find children from infected homes attending school. When remonstrated with the parents appear to be surprised and plead that they were not aware that it was necessary to keep the children from school.

Disinfecting Apparatus.—As you will remember, Gentlemen, our portable disinfecting apparatus was completely worn out, and for some two or three years we have been without a disinfecter of any kind, and were therefore unable to disinfect the bed and bedding and other contaminated articles of infectious cases. This was a serious inconvenience as the proper disinfection of such articles is of as much importance as the removal of the patient to hospital,

inasmuch as the things thus left at home are a serious danger to the other members of the family.

A "Reck" disinfector, manufactured at Copenhagen, was erected at the Infectious Diseases Hospital in the month of August of last year, and seems to be giving satisfaction.

The disinfecting agent is current steam at a temperature of 225°F. to 240°F., which can be generated in from twenty minutes to half-an-hour. The boiler is heated by coal, and the steam is conveyed by a circulating pipe to a steam drum above the disinfector, and its delivery into the disinfector is regulated by an automatic pressure gauge. The period of disinfection varies from 20 to 35 minutes, according to the articles to be disinfected. After the articles have been disinfected the steam is shut off and they are dried by heat from a hot water jacket surrounding three-fifths of the chamber. This type of machine is known as a low pressure disinfector. It is easily managed, simple and effective, and has proved to be quite satisfactory. The building is lighted by electricity. Where it is necessary to have the bedding in private houses disinfected after cases of infectious disease it is now brought to the Hospital. This method is decidedly preferable to taking the old portable disinfector to the houses.

The Caretaker is well acquainted with the machine, and the bed and bedding of all patients removed to Hospital are at once disinfected and sent home at the earliest possible moment at the expense of your Council.

Since the Disinfector was installed 395 articles, made up as follows, have been disinfected up to the end of the year:—Beds 10, bedding 62, pillows, &c., 31, wearing apparel 292; total 395.

Hospital Accommodation.—Our Hospital accommodation is precisely the same as last year, so that it is unnecessary for me to do more than quote from last year's Annual Report:—"The original Hospital was built of corrugated iron, and was erected in 1893. In addition to the administrative block it had three wards, each of which was provided with four beds. Two additional wards of similar construction and size and three nurses' sitting bedrooms have been added to the building, and the electric light has been installed, so that we have now a large commodious and well-arranged Hospital capable of meeting the growing requirements of the district for years to come. The Caretaker and his wife are trained and certificated nurses. They are devoted to their work, and are thoroughly reliable and trustworthy in the discharge of their duties. The husband has had long experience in the carrying and removal of patients and in the management of the modern disinfector." In reply to a Circular letter received from the Local Government

Board asking what provision, if any, your Council could make for the treatment of Typhoid Fever among the troops, should accommodation be required, your Council offered to reserve two wards, or eight beds in all, for the treatment of such cases.

At the same time, and as an extra precaution, your Medical Officer suggested to your Council the advisability of reserving the remainder of the Hospital for the treatment of Typhoid Fever and Diphtheria, as the great influx of refugees and others of all nationalities into this country owing to the war might reasonably be expected to tend to an outbreak of Typhoid Fever. Your Council at once agreed to the recommendation, so that from the 1st October the Hospital—unless something unforeseen should occur—was set apart for the exclusive treatment of such cases.

Conjoint Small-Pox Hospital.—This Hospital, as you know, gentlemen, is for the use of the whole Union. Since the outbreak of Small-Pox in the Penshaw district some three years ago it has been empty, and the Union has enjoyed a complete immunity from the disease since then. I called your attention, gentlemen, to a Circular Letter received from the Local Government Board pointing out the reasonable likelihood of Small-Pox being introduced into this country from abroad owing to the war, and urging all Authorities to make ample provision for such a contingency. The matter was fully considered by your Council, and all the necessary arrangements were ordered to be made in accordance with the recommendations of the Local Government Board.

Tuberculosis.—The new Regulations, 1912, apply to non-pulmonary as well as to pulmonary tuberculosis, so that all forms of the disease must now be notified. Some medical men are very remiss in notifying such cases, and your Medical Officer is put to much unnecessary trouble and inconvenience in writing for an explanation. When a reply is vouchsafed, which is not always the case, the excuse is generally to the effect that owing to pressure of work the notification had been forgotten. This, in many cases, is a lame excuse.

Disinfectants, sputum bottles and paper handkerchiefs are supplied for the use of the patients, and the premises are fumigated and otherwise disinfected by your Inspector. There is not the same delay in securing Sanatorium treatment as there was, and the patients, as a rule, speak highly of the kindness and consideration shown them while under treatment.

Apropos of Tuberculosis.—As there is no change in the circumstances or conditions relating to these cases, I cannot do better than quote from my last year's Report. Merely changing the phraseology serves no good purpose :—"The cases were investigated

in the usual way, and proper instructions given as to ventilation, isolation and the disposal of the sputum. In all cases Sanatorium treatment is recommended. If any real and lasting benefit, however, is to be derived from Sanatorium treatment the cases must be sent off in the early stage of the disease. When the disease is advanced the patient is doomed to disappointment, as no real good is ever effected. He may return home looking and feeling better for the rest and good food and the wonderful hope inspired by the new treatment, but sooner or later the patient loses ground and ultimately succumbs to the disease. Of course while in the Sanatorium he is well disciplined, and is taught much which it is well for him to know, and there is no fear of him infecting others, so that in this way, even in the advanced cases, Sanatorium treatment serves a good purpose although it fails to be of much benefit to the patient himself."

The following table gives the ages, male and female :—

	Ages.								
	1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	Total.
Males.									
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	—	2	5	3	3	2	4	1	20
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...	2	2	4	—	4	—	—	—	12
Females.									
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	1	1	4	6	4	6	—	—	22
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...	3	4	2	1	—	1	—	—	11
Total ...	6	9	15	10	11	9	4	1	65

The 91 cases notified were made up as follows:—65 under Form "A," none under Form "B," 11 under Form "C," and 15 under Form "D." Total, 91.

Of the 65 cases notified under Form "A," 28 had a distinct family history, and 17 had a fatal termination.

Typhoid Fever.—The cases were confined more or less to the Shiney Row, Penshaw, Herrington and Rainton districts, as the following particulars, including date of notification, will show:—Three took place at Middle Rainton, one at West Rainton, one at Resolution Pit, one at Hedworth Terrace, two at Barrack Row, and one at Chandler Row, Shiney Row; one at Whitefield Pit, two at Mount Pleasant, and one at Pit Row, New Penshaw; one at Douglass

Terrace, one at Bell Street, and one at Victoria Terrace, Old Penshaw; one at George Street, and one at Fenton Terrace, New Herrington; one at Somerset Cottages, Silksworth; one at Gertrude Street, Newbottle; and one at Penshaw Station.

At Middle Rainton the sanitary conditions and surroundings are peculiarly favourable for the spread of Typhoid Fever, so that there is room for thankfulness that no more than three cases occurred there. Most of the houses are of a very poor type, and the inhabitants, as a rule, are poor, untidy, underfed, and of a migratory class, fond of hanging about the doors and gossiping with the neighbours.

Two of the cases—man and wife—occupied the same bed in the kitchen. The wife took ill first, and neither her husband nor his intelligent mother could be made to understand that this condition of things exposed the other members of the household to grave risks. She refused to go to Hospital, with the result that her husband fell a victim to the disease a fortnight later. He also refused to go to Hospital.

In the Penshaw and other districts the houses are of a much superior class, and the people are more amenable to reason.

Only in three cases did my rounds of inspection reveal any sanitary defects. These consisted of choked up yard drains, causing a serious nuisance.

Two of the cases treated in the Hospital had a normal temperature from the day of admission. They were put under observation, and were discharged within a week. George Street, New Herrington, where one of the cases occurred, has been free from Typhoid Fever since the remodelling of the out-offices some years ago. The close proximity of the out-offices to the pantries and back doors cannot be otherwise than injurious to health. Many of the streets are in long rows, and are set back to back with a back street between them. In addition to the ordinary traffic, they are used by the children to play in, the front streets being hardly, if ever, used.

The Scavenging of the conveniences in these streets occupies from two to three days a week, so that at any time, but more especially during the summer months, when the work is in progress the smell from the polluted air is most objectionable.

The food stuffs hawked about from door to door by the street vendors, and the milk and water carried in open vessels, cannot fail to be seriously contaminated.

Typhoid Fever and Summer Diarrhœa are undoubtedly frequently contracted in this way.

Gentlemen, there is no disguising the fact, as I have repeatedly remarked in my reports, that until we adopt the water carriage system for the disposal of night soil we shall always be subject to those outbreaks of Typhoid Fever and Summer Diarrhœa which for years back have been a feature of this district.

When cases are not removed to Hospital pails are provided for the evacuations of the patients, and the out-offices are cleansed and disinfected.

Scarlet Fever.—Scarlet Fever has prevailed in the district more or less during the whole year. It was not confined to any particular parts until the month of August, when it assumed the proportions of an epidemic in the Fence Houses area.

In the first instance the infection was contracted at school, as several of the children were sent home suffering from the disease. Subsequently the visiting at infected houses no doubt largely contributed to the spread of the infection.

The type of the disease was of such a mild character that many of the cases were neither recognised nor suspected until the peeling stage had set in. In these mild outbreaks it is difficult to convince the parents that precautionary measures of any kind are necessary, hence little or nothing is done at home to guard against the spread of the disease.

Erysipelas.—The cases were all of the ordinary type. The only month during the year in which no case was notified was the month of August. My rounds of inspection revealed no sanitary defects. As usual with us there was a large preponderance of females over males affected. Ordinarily males are more frequently attacked than females.

It frequently happens that when Scarlet Fever prevails in epidemic form there is also a prevalence of Erysipelas. The two diseases bear a certain relation to each other, as a reference to my Annual Reports will show.

Diphtheria.—As was to be expected from the prevalence of Scarlet Fever in the district, Diphtheria has been on the increase during the year. There can be no question that Scarlet Fever predisposes to the disease by rendering the throat more susceptible. As a matter of fact several of the cases had been notified as suffering from Scarlet Fever only a few days before the Diphtheria set in. While on my rounds of inspection I found the mother of one of the

cases was sleeping with her child. On pointing out the serious risks she thus incurred she seemed surprised, and told me she was not aware that her child was suffering from an infectious disease.

One of the children removed to the Hospital was in a comatose condition and died five minutes after admission.

Although a careful investigation was made of all the cases, my rounds of inspection revealed no apparent sanitary defects. There is nothing very surprising in this, for, although looked upon as one of the so-called filth diseases, the source of infection in the majority of the cases is most difficult to trace.

The families were getting their milk from different sources, and some were using condensed milk.

All cases treated in the Hospital are at once injected on admission, and on application to your Medical Officer serum is supplied, free of charge, in necessitous cases for those treated at home. For some years back I have gone fully into the question of the causation of Diphtheria so need add nothing more to my present remarks, as nothing new has transpired during the year.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—My remarks with respect to the above disease in my last year's report may be quoted here with advantage :—"The Local Government Board have issued an Order, which comes into operation in April of this year, making it one of the notifiable diseases. It is to be hoped that this will do much to safeguard the eyes of new-born infants, and to prevent the disease from spreading to other members of the family. Hitherto many infants have lost their sight through negligence and want of knowledge on the part of those in attendance at the time of the birth of the nature of the disease and the terrible consequences likely to occur if proper precautions are not taken.

Poliomyelitis and Cerebro-Spinal Fever.—Although notifiable no cases have been reported during the year.

Measles.—Only a few cases of Measles have come to my knowledge during the year, none of which had a fatal termination. As I have repeatedly remarked, gentlemen, it is too much the habit to look upon Measles as a very simple, harmless disease ; one requiring little or no special care or treatment. This is a great mistake. From the very first the patient should be kept warm in bed and put under medical treatment. There is no disease more liable to leave behind it ear and chest complications which, if not at the time, certainly in after life, may seriously affect the general health of the individual.

Whooping Cough.—Whooping Cough is frequently associated with Measles, when it becomes a very serious complication. It was rather prevalent during the second and third quarters of the year, and five cases had a fatal termination, as a reference to Table III. will show.

Influenza.—We have had the usual number of cases of Influenza during the year. Chiefly in the spring and winter months the cold weather invariably predisposes to the disease. The symptoms have been neither so marked nor so severe as previously.

In the early stages difficulty is frequently experienced in deciding as to whether the illness is one of Influenza or Typhoid Fever. A mistake of this kind is not uncommon.

Pneumonia, Bronchitis, &c.—The conditions predisposing to these diseases have been so frequently referred to in my reports that I need not enter into their consideration again. Suffice it to say that they are chiefly of a climatic and industrial character. The prevailing north-east winds during the winter and early spring, and the chills to which the night-shift men are exposed while on their way to and from their work, and the freedom with which some children are allowed to remain about the streets at night improperly and badly clothed, very often are all predisposing causes.

Chicken Pox.—Chicken Pox is not now a notifiable disease with us. Had there been any doubtful cases in the district during the past year I think I should have been communicated with.

Diarrhœa, Enteritis, &c., were so prevalent during the third quarter of the year that out of the 123 deaths registered 41, or exactly one-third, were due to the above diseases, chiefly among infants and young children. Atmospheric conditions, insanitary surroundings, and improper feeding are unquestionably the chief factors in the causation of the above. The hot, dry summer made it difficult to keep foodstuffs in small and often improperly ventilated pantries in anything like a wholesome condition. In my remarks on Typhoid Fever I pointed out that the out-offices are not far from the pantries. In hot, dry seasons, no matter how carefully they are attended to, they are liable to become very offensive, so that the foodstuffs in the kitchens and pantries, with the doors and windows thrown open to permit of a circulation of air, must become more or less contaminated. Of course much of the unpleasantness might be avoided by a judicious and liberal use of dry ashes each time the receptacles are used; but children, and even adults, do not often think of such precautionary measures, and where the open ashpits exist such a precaution is not of much use.

Notification of Births Act.—Now that a Lady Health Visitor has been appointed to the district, the distribution of the printed Circulars by the Registrar at the registration of the births, giving instructions as to the proper feeding, clothing, and general management of infants and young children, has been done away with. This, I think, is a mistake. The Lady Visitor is doing good work, and substantial improvement in the way of a reduced infant mortality may be reasonably looked for in the near future. She is judicious and tactful in the discharge of her important and somewhat delicate duties, and is well received by the persons among whom she labours.

Flies.—As I have remarked, we must not overlook the fact that flies are great carriers of infection. During the past hot, dry summer they were very troublesome with us.

A very simple and inexpensive contrivance for the protection of milk, jam, &c., is to cover such articles with a square of common cheese cloth weighted at the corners.

No house or stable refuse, which are their breeding beds, should be allowed to accumulate, but should be removed without delay and the places thoroughly disinfected.

Ringworm and Scabies.—Several cases of both diseases have come to my knowledge during the year. Children suffering from either disease are rightly excluded from school until all fear of infection is over.

Milk.—Although samples of Milk are taken from time to time, everything has been in order until the present year, when two farmers were proceeded against for selling milk deficient in natural fat. One resided just outside the district but sold milk in the district. A fine in each case was imposed. These proceedings are taken at the instigation of the County Council.

Foods and Drugs Act.—Proceedings under the Act are taken by the County Council.

Disinfection of Elementary Schools.—Your Council has undertaken the disinfection of such schools, when necessary, at the expense of the County Council.

Disinfectants.—These are supplied free of charge, and your Inspectors themselves frequently superintend their use. Ten tons of Carbolic Disinfectant Powder have been distributed during the year for disinfecting the drains and out-offices. A considerable quantity of Crude Carbolic Acid has also been used for flushing the

sewers. In addition to this large quantities of Liquid and Powder Disinfectants have been supplied to persons for home use where cases of infectious disease have occurred. Since the notification of Tuberculosis became compulsory the amount of disinfectants supplied in this manner has considerably increased. Where cases of infectious disease have occurred the rooms are thoroughly disinfected and sprayed with a formalin solution and fumigated with sulphur or formic aldehyde vapour. Since the new Disinfector has been installed at the Hospital the bedding is removed there, and undergoes thorough disinfection by means of superheated steam.

Deposits of House Refuse.—During the year nine complaints were dealt with by your officers. Six of the cases were the result of Scavenging Contractors depositing refuse within the prescribed distance from dwelling-houses. These cases occurred in the following districts:—Morton Grange one, Rainton East one, Penshaw two, Newbottle two, and were speedily remedied by the active measures taken by your Inspector. Another complaint referred to a deposit of town refuse at a railway siding in Pit House Lane, Leamside. The manure is brought to the place in trucks and occasionally left for a considerable time before being carted away on to the land. Owing to the highly objectionable nature of this refuse a serious nuisance is caused if the owners are at all dilatory in removing it. In the case in question the matter was attended to when brought to the notice of the owner. Another case which occurred in the Leamside district was in connection with a stable manure pit which had been erected against the gable of a dwelling-house. It was not until legal proceedings were on the point of being instituted that the owner finally agreed to abate the nuisance. The remaining case occurred at Middle Rainton, and had reference to the depositing of house refuse in the streets. This was due to a certain number of the inhabitants, too indolent to carry the refuse to the proper places, throwing all manner of refuse into the streets. It was eventually found necessary to issue notices in the village threatening proceedings against any persons caught so offending. I am pleased to be able to state that this has apparently had the desired effect, as it has not been found necessary to institute any proceeding up to the present time.

Main Sewers.—The Sewers throughout the district are regularly disinfected and flushed. Special attention being given to them during periods of continued drought. The gradients are often considerably affected by subsidence, and the closest supervision of your Sanitary Surveyors is necessary in order to keep them in a satisfactory condition. New sewers have been laid at Sedgely, West Herrington, and the Cocken Estate, Leamside, in addition to

which extensions have been made to existing sewers to provide drainage for the new houses erected during the year.

House Drains.—Attention is given to the drainage of the houses inspected under the Housing and Town Planning, etc., Act, and a considerable number of branch drains have been relaid throughout the District. The gullies are frequently stopped up through the carelessness of tenants in putting objectionable matter into them. Where branch drains are re-laid your officers recommend that the new type of self-cleansing gully be substituted for those of the old fashioned type.

Sewage Disposal Works.—*Sedgeleth Sewage Farm.*—The sewage is collected in large tanks in which the sedimentary matter settles, after which it is distributed over the land by means of culverts. The works are carefully attended to and the land is well cultivated, with the result that excellent crops are produced for which satisfactory prices are obtained.

South Biddick Sewage Farm.—This farm is laid out on the same lines as that of Sedgeledge, and is under the same careful management. In all respects the works appear quite satisfactory.

William Henry Pit.—The sewage is first collected in a large tank where the heavier solids in the sewage subside. From there the sewage passes through two septic tanks where further subsidence takes place amongst the most minute particles of solid matter suspended in the sewage. It is next treated by being alternately spread over coarse and fine clinker beds by means of automatic tippers. During this latter process the sewage percolates through the clinker and is further purified before entering the stream. During the year “Alumino Ferric” has been experimented with at these works with a view to assisting in the purification of the sewage, and the results appear to have been satisfactory.

Scavenging.—Particulars of the Scavenging districts having appeared in my previous reports, it is unnecessary to include them again this year. The district is now sub-divided into 25 Scavenging districts, and the total number of houses scavanged up to December, 1914, was 5,418, at a cost of £2,456 4s. 4d. This works out at a cost per house of 9/- per annum, which shows a slight increase over the previous year. The district being somewhat scattered, it requires the constant supervision of your Sanitary Inspectors to ensure that the work is regularly attended to and efficiently performed. The Scavenging throughout the district is now very much improved

to what it was formerly, but occasionally there is cause for complaint. The Contracts are let for a period of three years, and the present Contracts terminate in March, 1915. In the new Contracts which are to be entered into the conditions have been somewhat revised, and new clauses inserted with a view to raising the standard of efficiency of this very important work.

Ash-pits and Privies.—A considerable number of this objectionable type of convenience have been done away with during the year, and either water-closets or properly-constructed ash-closets have been erected in their stead. As this particular type of convenience was common to practically all the older property in the district many still remain, but they are gradually diminishing, as your officers carry out their inspections under the Housing Acts.

Water Closets.—During the year a few houses have been provided with Water Closets, but our supply of water is not sufficient for making their adoption general.

Defective Yard Paving.—A fair amount of improvement has been carried out during the year in this direction, but much yet remains to be done. All yards should be paved with impervious material (preferably cement) so as to prevent the risk of surface pollution and percolation into the foundations of the houses. The yards of houses recently built are usually cemented.

Private Streets.—*Penshaw.*—Provisional apportionments have been served upon the owners of houses included in the second batch of streets at Penshaw. The few objections lodged have now been withdrawn. The scheme is in suspense owing to the war.

Newbottle.—The Local Government Board have issued an Order investing this Council with powers under the Private Street Works Act, 1892, with respect to a number of streets at Grasswell and Dubmires, in the Parish of Newbottle. The scheme is now in the Surveyor's hands.

Pig Styes.—The number of pigs kept in the district is gradually diminishing owing to the difficulty found in acquiring a suitable place in which to keep them. As a rule the styes are wooden erections, poorly constructed, and drained into a cesspool generally situated in the garden.

Animals Improperly Kept.—The majority of these cases usually refer to the keeping of poultry, pigeons and rabbits in wooden erections in the yards. They breed vermin, and as it is difficult to keep them clean in close confinement, they should not be kept by persons other than those who have a suitable place at a

proper distance from the dwelling. Two cases of a rather unusual character occurred during the year. The first related to the keeping of three goats in a small yard in the Fence Houses district, and the other case was from Penshaw, where a horse was kept in the yard. Both cases were abated upon notices being served on the offending persons. Generally speaking all the available yard space should be free from erections of any description so as to ensure a free circulation of air in and around the houses.

Glanders.—On May 23rd I received a note from Sergt. Brown, Silksworth, informing me that a pony suffering from Glanders, and belonging to the Silksworth Colliery Company, had been slaughtered on May 15th by order of the Veterinary Inspector. The facts are these:—The pony had been imported from Russia, and, according to the usual practice at the Colliery, it was kept in quarantine for a fortnight, and when examined by the Veterinary Surgeon it was found to be suffering from Glanders and was at once destroyed.

Overcrowding.—Several cases of overcrowding occurred during the year. In almost every case this was caused by the occupiers taking in other families to live with them. The worst cases were from Moorsley, East Rainton, Newbottle and Penshaw. The case reported from Moorsley was a particularly serious one—13 persons were occupying two rooms. Repeated warnings to the tenant having no effect, it was found necessary to serve legal notice. This also was ignored, and finally legal proceedings had to be instituted. These were successful, and the overcrowding was eventually abated. Of the cases from East Rainton one occurred in a Colliery house, where the tenant had let off the upstairs rooms to another person and his family. All the cases referred to have been abated with one exception, and in this case action has been instituted to have the overcrowding abated.

Dairies and Milkshops.—There are three Registered Milk Shops in the District, all of which are usually clean and well kept.

Cow-Sheds.—The Cow-sheds and Dairies are Registered under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops Order, 1884. They are periodically inspected, and careful attention is paid to the lighting, ventilation, air space, drainage and cleanliness. There are 51 registered cow keepers and about 840 cows kept in the district. No cases of infectious disease have occurred during the year. All the Cow-Sheds and Dairies have had an abundant supply of pure water during the past dry summer, when many places were experiencing a great scarcity of water.

Slaughter Houses.—The number of Registered Slaughter Houses in the district is 14. They are periodically inspected, and, generally speaking, are found to be well kept. The meat is generally of good quality. A case of Tuberculous beef was reported, and after examination it was considered that the carcass should be destroyed. This was subsequently done under the supervision of your Sanitary Inspector. The animal had been purchased from a neighbouring farmer, and had the appearance of being quite healthy before being slaughtered. The garbage is removed from the premises immediately after slaughtering, and attention is paid to the lime-washing and general cleanliness. (See report on Glanders on page 17.)

During the year a new set of Bye-laws have been framed and approved by the Local Government Board. They came into operation on the 27th August last, and each of the occupiers of Slaughter Houses in the district has since been furnished with a copy.

Factories and Workshops.—The Factories and Workshops in the district were examined in the usual way. In addition to your Inspectors there is the Local Government Board Inspector, to whom application for occupation of either a factory or workshop is made, a copy of which, if granted, is forwarded to your Council. The various tables giving particulars of the work carried out during the year were sent to the Home Office, the Local Government Board, and the County Council, in accordance with instructions. The air space, ventilation, drainage and closet accommodation were found to be in accordance with the Act, except in two minor instances. In one case there was overcrowding, in the other insufficient Sanitary accommodation, both of which were at once attended to at the request of your Inspector.

Water Supply.—The Water Supply in the district has been well maintained during the year. Various extensions to the mains have been carried out in order to supply the new houses erected. In that part of the district supplied by the Weardale and Consett Water Co., namely, the Parishes of Rainton East and Rainton West, a shortage of supply at one time seemed imminent owing to the exceptionally dry summer and the consequent lowering of the reservoirs. Bills were issued by the Water Co. asking householders to exercise every care in the use of the water and to avoid unnecessary waste. It was not, however, found necessary to curtail the supply, and matters have now regained their normal state. I understand that measures are being taken to prevent the possibility of a similar situation arising in the future. Full particulars of the various

sources of supply throughout the district having appeared in my previous reports, I do not consider it necessary to go over the same ground again.

Water Analysis.—Only in one case was it considered necessary to submit a sample of water for examination. This occurred in the Leamside district, the source of supply being a deep well. The bacteriological examination showed that there was a slight pollution from surface washings, but otherwise there was no other contamination of a serious nature. The matter was immediately brought to the notice of the owners, and they promised to have the well properly protected. The work is not yet completed, but the agent has promised to give it his immediate attention.

Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909.—Our mode of procedure under the Act is for your Inspectors and myself to inspect so many houses each month and present a report, together with recommendations to your Council, with a view to deciding what action should be taken in regard to those houses found to be in an insanitary condition. During the year a further inspection of 630 houses has been made. Of the notices served upon the owners of insanitary property a considerable number are still unfinished. This is due, to a large extent, to the unsettled state of the country owing to the war, which in all probability will act as a hindrance to the progress of sanitary improvements for some time to come. Particulars of the houses inspected are here given in tabular form:—

Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909.				
1	Number of Dwelling Houses Inspected	...	...	630
2	Number of Dwelling Houses found to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	8
3	Number of Representations made to Local Authority with a view to Closing Orders	...	...	8
4	Number of Closing Orders made by Local Authority	...	...	8
5	Number of Dwelling Houses made fit for human habitation without Closing Orders being made	...	...	105
6	Number of Dwelling Houses made fit for human habitation after Closing Orders were made	...	...	7
7	General character of defects found to exist:— Defective Yard Paving. Damp Brick Paved Floors. Insanitary Privy Middens. Defective Spouting.			

Housing Conditions Generally.—*Morton Engine Cottages* (4 houses.)—These houses are still occupied, and are in a very poor state of repair. The owners promised to have them reconstructed some time ago, but nothing has been done. I am, however, assured by the owners' representative that they have not lost sight of the matter, and that they will endeavour to remedy the existing state of affairs during the year.

“*Old Hope and Anchor*,” *Middle Rainton*.—Closing orders were made in respect of this property in August, 1912. Your Council required the owner to acquire the cottage at the rear, to demolish the same, and to utilize the site for yard space, and in addition to carry out extensive repairs to the “Hope and Anchor” property. Considerable difficulty was experienced in acquiring the cottage at the rear, but eventually the respective owners came to terms, and the improvements have been effected. The original “Hope and Anchor” Inn was converted into two useful four-roomed dwelling houses, and the closing orders were determined in October last.

The Freehold, West Rainton.—The alterations to the sanitary conveniences have now been completed, and with one or two exceptions the cementing of the floors and yards has been carried out. In May last, a circular letter was addressed to the owners concerned, requesting them to provide the attics with a dormer window and skylight. As a result, 25 of the houses have been provided with these, and in all probability many more will be put in hand shortly.

Rainton Gate.—A house which has been standing in a delapidated condition for some years, has been pulled down and two houses of a useful class have been erected on the site, thus effecting a substantial improvement to the place.

Moorsley.—A number of improvements have been made during the year, but there still remains a large number of houses in a very poor state of repair. The place has the continued attention of your Officers.

Leamside.—There are a few houses in this district in a very poor state of repair, and should be dealt with when an opportune time arrives.

The Brickgarth, Dubmires.—A commencement has been made with the enlargement and the re-building of these houses.

Dubmires.—In Cross Street, Mary Street, Thornton Street, etc., a considerable number of the old ashpit privies have been pulled down, and properly constructed ash closets have been erected in

their stead. Many of the living room floors, which were originally of brick, have been replaced with good cement floors, and general improvements to the property have been effected.

South and Middle Rows, Sunnyside.—A number of brick floors in the kitchens have been taken up and cement floors substituted, and the work is still in progress.

Bow Row, Shiny Row.—The old-fashioned low single storey houses are being pulled down and a number of commodious five-roomed houses have been erected on their sites.

St. Oswald's Terrace, Mill Pit.—A number of old ash pits and privies belonging to the houses on the opposite side of the road have been pulled down and new conveniences have been erected at the rear of the premises. A block of new houses has been erected on the site previously occupied by the aforementioned conveniences, and the appearance of the place is greatly improved.

Urban Powers.—*Penshaw.*—*Public Urinals.*—The Local Government Board have issued an Order conferring upon the Council the powers of Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1875, and Sub-section 1 (3) of Section 20 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, with respect to the Parish of Penshaw.

General.—*Town's Police Clauses Act, 1847.*—The Local Government Board issued an Order conferring upon this Council the powers of Section 28 of the above Act for the whole district.

Legal Proceedings.—*23 and 24 George Street, and 21 Thornton Street, Dubmires, Newbottle.*—Proceedings before Magistrates were instituted against the owner of this property under the Nuisance Clause of the Public Health Act, 1875. The Magistrates made an order, the defendant having to pay costs. The necessary repairs to the property were carried out.

The Lambton and Hetton Collieries Company, Limited.—My frequent reference to the above Company in my annual reports is due entirely to the fact that they are the great employers of labour and the owners of most of the cottage property in the district. As you are aware, gentlemen, they keep a large permanent staff of workmen for the purpose of keeping their property in order. Their agents are always ready and willing to carry out the requirements of your Council and the recommendations of your officers.

I am again indebted to Councillor Palliser for a detailed list of the repairs and improvements carried out by the Company during the year, but the space at my disposal is too limited to enter into details. I can only make a few general remarks in commenting upon the housing conditions generally. For years back the Company have been systematically engaged in pulling down and rebuilding some of their old property and in reconstructing the old privy ash-pits. Of the latter work there is still much to be done, but with the steady progress they are making the district should soon be rid of these most objectionable and dangerous receptacles. In their future building operations I should advise the erection of a few larger houses—houses of four or five rooms—for the accommodation of their workmen with exceptionally large families. This, with the rearrangement of the present houses with a view to meeting the requirements of the family according to the number of children, would do much to abate the overcrowding in the district.

New Houses.—Building operations have been fairly brisk during the year. Plans were approved for 88 houses, 60 of which may be considered in occupation.

Overcrowding.—A circular letter was received from the Local Government Board on August 21st, with reference to Housing (No. 2) Act, 1914. The matter was fully considered by your Council when it was decided to defer the further consideration of the question for the present.

Much of the overcrowding that undoubtedly exists is due to families taking in lodgers or relations to live with them. I understand the Colliery owners are doing their best to so arrange matters as to let their workmen with large families have the larger houses, and those with small families the smaller houses. If this could be systematically carried out the overcrowding would be considerably relieved.

Death-Rate.—I have to thank Dr. Hill for a copy of the Chief Vital Statistics for the Administrative County of Durham, which I herewith append to my report.

Our death-rate is higher than that for the County, but many of the other rates are in our favour—notably our birth-rate. A death rate of 16·8 for a mining population with a relatively high birth-rate, such as ours, cannot be considered excessive, more particularly when we remember that during the third quarter of the year we suffered from a smart epidemic of diarrhœa and enteritis, when 41 of the 123 deaths were due to these diseases alone.

Gentlemen, I have to thank your capable and energetic Inspectors also your able and courteous Clerk for much valuable assistance which they have given me during the year. They are ever ready and willing to co-operate with your Medical Officer in all matters having for their object the sanitary improvement of the district.

Permit me again, gentlemen, to offer you my sincere thanks for the many acts of kindness and consideration which I have received from every member of your Council during the long number of years I have had the honour to act as your Medical Officer of Health.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. S. PARK.

TABLE I.
Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and Previous Years.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.		Number.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909	23,700	...	917	38·6	318	13·4	...	21	107	116·6	339	14·3
1910	24,400	...	968	39·2	336	13·7	...	25	123	127·0	361	14·7
1911	25,518	...	940	36·8	383	15·008	...	32	147	156·3	414	16·2
1912	26,200	...	922	35·1	343	13·09	...	22	111	120·3	365	13·9
1913	26,500	...	892	33·6	377	14·2	...	35	129	144·6	412	15·5
1914	28,367	963	964	33·9	446	15·7	...	31	152	157·6	477	16·8

Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 13,190	Total population at all ages ...	25,518
	Total families or separate occupiers ...	5,260
		At Census, 1911.

TABLE II.
Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the Year 1914.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases Notified.							Total Cases Notified in each Locality.										Total Cases Re- moved to Hospital.			
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						Eppleton Little.	Herrington E. and M.	Herrington West.	Moorsley.	Morton Grange.	Newbottle.	Offerton.	Penshaw.	Rainton E.	Rainton W.		Silksworth.	Warden Law.	
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.														65 and Upwards.
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera (C) Plague (P) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)...	23	...	9	3	2	...	...	...	4	1	2	4	...	...	10	...	...	...	2	7	
Erysipelas ...	29	...	2	1	8	15	...	...	7	2	4	2	...	...	7	...	...	...	1	...	
Scarlet Fever ...	366	4	98	237	1	2	...	...	36	2	62	136	2	...	79	5	13	25	...	57	
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Enteric Fever ...	21	...	1	3	8	2	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	11	3	2	1	...	11	
Relapsing Fever (R) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Continued Fever (C) ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Puerperal Fever ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	42	1	3	9	15	5	...	...	7	3	4	7	...	...	16	2	2	1	...	...	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	23	5	6	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	1	7	...	...	12	...	1	...	...	...	
Totals ...	511	15	119	265	45	40	24	3	57	8	73	160	2	138	12	24	29	3	...	75	

Northern Isolation Hospital, Newbottle.

Stanhope, Wolsingham, Sherburn House and Black Fell.

TABLE III. Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1914.

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non- Residents" in Institutions in the District
	All Ages	Un- der 1 year	1 and un- der 2	2 and un- der 5	5 and un- der 15	15 and un- der 25	25 and un- der 45	45 and un- der 65	65 and up- w'ds	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All Causes { Certified ...	471	150	36	19	25	29	41	77	94	471
{ Uncertified ...	6	2	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	6
Enteric Fever ...	9	...	...	...	...	5	3	1	...	2
Small Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	8	1	...	4	3	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough ...	5	3	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ...	8	1	2	4	1	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	17	...	...	...	3	6	7	1	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis ..	10	2	1	2	...	2	3	...	...	...
Other Tubercular Diseases ...	15	3	3	1	3	2	3	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease ...	18	...	...	...	...	...	2	10	6	...
Rheumatic Fever ...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease ...	46	1	...	1	1	1	4	23	15	...
Bronchitis ...	38	13	1	...	...	...	...	8	16	...
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	49	12	12	3	5	2	6	7	2	...
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ...	61	43	12	1	2	1	...	1	1	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	13	1	...	...	...	1	3	4	4	...
Puerperal Fever ..	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturi- tion ...	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Mal- formation, including Pre- mature Birth ...	61	60	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ...	16	...	...	...	...	4	4	6	2	...
Suicide ...	4	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...
Other Defined Diseases ...	90	8	3	2	7	3	2	17	48	...
Diseases Ill-defined or Un- known ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	477	152	36	19	25	30	42	79	94	4

TABLE IV.

Causes of Death.				Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	4 Weeks and under 3 Months	3 Months and under 6 Months	6 Months and under 9 Months	9 Months and under 12 Mths.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All causes	Certified ...	...	...	38	3	5	3	49	16	39	27	20	151
	Uncertified ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Small-pox ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Whooping -cough ...				...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	3
Diphtheria and Croup ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Erysipelas ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis...				...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2
Abdomoninal Tuber- culosis ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases...				...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	3
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Convulsions ...				1	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	...	4
Laryngitis ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis ...				...	1	1	...	2	1	3	3	2	11
Pneumonia (all forms)				...	...	...	...	...	1	5	4	4	14
Diarrhoea ...				...	...	...	1	1	...	5	5	3	14
Enteritis ...				...	...	...	...	...	5	11	8	5	29
Gastritis ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis ...				...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Rickets ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlying				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth ...				1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	2
Atelectasis ...				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations				1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	2
Premature Birth ...				16	...	...	...	16	1	...	...	...	17
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...				17	2	3	1	23	6	7	1	1	38
Other causes ...				2	...	1	...	3	1	1	2	2	9
				38	3	5	3	49	16	40	27	20	152

Nett Births in the Year	legitimate	...	...	...	944
	illegitimate	...	...	...	20
Nett Deaths in the Year	legitimate	...	...	...	138
	illegitimate	...	...	...	14

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF DURHAM.

Preliminary Chief Vital Statistics for 1914, and their comparison with 1913 and 1912, and the average of the five years 1907—1911.

Estimated Population (1914)	...	...	988,750
” ” (1913)	...	...	970,070
” ” (1912)	...	...	951,750

	Mean Rate for the 5 years 1907-1911.	Annual Rates per 1,000 Population.		
		1912	1913	1914
Birth-rate	33·4	31·2	30·6	31·1
Death-rate	15·7	13·7	15·3	14·9
Zymotic Death-rate	2·10	1·39	1·85	2·20
Infant Mortality rate (per 1,000 births)	139	106	137	134
Smallpox	Nil.	0·00	Nil.	Nil.
Scarlet Fever	0·07	0·10	0·15	0·22
Diphtheria and Croup	0·17	0·16	0·19	0·23
Fever (Enteric and Continued)	0·13	0·06	0·06	0·11
Measles	0·38	0·52	0·41	0·17
Whooping Cough	0·34	0·27	0·18	0·36
Diarrhœa	0·99	0·27	0·85	1·12
Phthisis	0·89	0·91	0·89	0·92
Other Tubercular diseases	0·67	0·32	0·53	0·42
Acute respiratory diseases... ..	2·52	2·18	2·53	2·29

27th January, 1915.

T. EUSTACE HILL,
County Medical Officer.

Summary of Work done in the Inspector of Nuisances' Department during the year 1914, in the Rural District of Houghton-le-Spring.

I. Public Health Acts.	Number of Informal written Notices by Inspector.	Number of Formal Notices by order of Authority.	Number of Nuisances abated after Notice.	General Remarks.
Dwelling-houses & Schools				
Foul Conditions ...	7	2	9	
Structural Defects ...	181	140	105	
Overcrowding ...	4	2	6	
Lodging-houses ...	—	—	—	None in District.
Dairies and Milkshops ...	—	—	—	
Cowsheds ...	—	—	—	
Bakehouses ...	2	—	2	
Slaughter-houses ...	3	—	3	
Ashpits and Privies ...	51	32	75	
Deposits of Refuse and Manure ...	7	2	9	
Waterclosets ...	4	3	7	
Defective Yard Paving ...	103	42	109	
House Drainage— Defective Traps ...	8	4	12	
No Disconnection from Sewers ...	—	2	2	
Other Faults ...	74	9	81	
Water Supply ...	24	1	23	
Pigsties ...	—	—	—	
Animals Improperly Kept	10	2	12	None in District.
Offensive Trades ...	—	—	—	
Smoke Nuisances ...	—	—	—	
Other Nuisances ...	23	6	22	
TOTALS ...	501	247	477	

II. Water, Food and Drugs.

	Number
Samples of Water taken for Analysis	1
Samples of Water condemned as un- fit for use...	—
Seizure of Unwholesome Food ...	1
Convictions for exposing or selling unwholesome Food ...	—
Samples of Food and Drugs taken for Analysis ...	—
Samples of Food found Adulterated	—

**III. Precautions against
Infectious Disease.**

	Number
Lots of Infectious Bedding stoved or destroyed ...	articles 395
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease ...	46
Schools disinfected after Infectious Disease ...	—
Prosecutions for exposure of infected persons or things ...	—
Convictions for exposure of infected persons or things ...	—

IV. General.

Number of New Houses erected during the year ...	88
Number of such Houses occupied during the year ...	60
Ashpit-privies converted into Ash- closets ...	65
Ashpit-privies converted into Water- closets ...	10

Ash-closets converted into Water- closets ...	—
Total number of Water-closets in District ...	150
Total number of Ash-closets in District ...	approximately 4200
Total number of Ashpit-privies in District ...	approximately 700

WM. MORLEY, }
T. M. MORLEY, } Inspectors of Nuisances.

